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HAIDA GWAI, “THE QUEEN CHARLOTTE ISLANDS”

(Each tour is strictly limited to 15 participants)

Thursday, June 17, to Saturday, June 26, 2010, and Thursday, July 8, to Saturday, July 17, 2010

Tour price from Vancouver, and based on double occupancy:

June 17 departure: \$3,150 – July 8 departure: \$3,200

Single room surcharge: \$375

(Plus applicable GST or HST)

Please note that this tour starts and finishes in Vancouver. Participants are free to make their own arrangements for flights to/from Vancouver and possibly for accommodations in Vancouver, or can ask our office to make these arrangements for them.

PROPOSED ITINERARY:

Day 1 - Thursday, June 17 OR July 8:

Early afternoon departure from Vancouver Airport on Air Canada’s flight to the BC archipelago of 150 islands known as Haida Gwai, “islands of the people,” and/or the Queen Charlotte Islands. Arrival

in Sandspit, a community situated on Moresby, one of the two big islands, around 3 PM. Transfer, including a short ferry ride across Alliford Bay, to Graham Island, the other large island, and the village of Queen Charlotte. Orientation drive along the bay, before we check into the Hotel Sea Raven, our home for three nights (www.searaven.com). Leisurely walk along the waterfront and the commercial part of the village, followed by a welcome dinner in a local restaurant.

Day 2 – Friday, June 18 OR July 9:

After breakfast, our local resource person, Andrew Merilees, will take us on a short minibus tour of the area. On to Skidegate, a picturesque waterfront village. The many attractions here include the famous dogfish totem pole carved by Haida artist Bill Reid as well as six other Haida poles raised in 2001. Next we visit the brand-new (2007) Kaay Ll'nagaay Heritage Centre (www.haidaheritagecentre.com) and the adjacent marvelous Haida Gwaii Museum. These visits will constitute one of the highlights of the trip! Time permitting, we drive further out to enjoy the outdoors at places such as Balance Rock, St. Mary's Spring, and a former potlatch ceremonial centre. No dinner is included this evening, but an optional dinner of Haida culinary specialities, possibly accompanied by a performance of traditional dances and/or a talk by a Haida elder or carver, may be available.

Totem pole at Kaay Ll'nagaay Heritage Centre >

Days 3 + 4 – Saturday, June 19 OR July 10 + Sunday, June 20 OR July 11:

Early morning departure from the hotel to meet with Moresby Explorers, our hosts and guides for these two days. Using large Zodiacs (rubber boats), we will explore the waters and shores of several islands of the Moresby Chain, including parts of Gwaii Haanas National Park Reserve. The waters here are full of dolphins and whales, the air with bald eagles and many other kinds of birds, and the shores feature countless intertidal pools with crustaceans and other marine creatures. The first day we will focus on the sites of Louise Island, with as a highlight the village of Skedans. The second day we visit T'aanuu Lnagaay (Tanu Island), a graveyard of native villages, featuring fascinating material remains of the ancient Haida culture, such as moss-covered ruins of longhouses and overturned mortuary totem poles.



This venture, which will be another highlight of the tour, includes an overnight in a floating cabin, with bunk-style beds in three rooms, a sitting and dining area, and lots of deck space; there is a flush toilet, and hot/cold running water, but no shower. The cabin is located in Moresby Camp, an abandoned logging site that is being redeveloped into a recreation site. (For details and pictures, see www.moresbyexplorers.com and www.flickr.com/search/?w=all&q=moresby+explorer&m=text) Please note that all meals are included during this two-day adventure. Return to Hotel Sea Raven in the village of Queen Charlotte by early evening of day 4. Dinner on your own.

Touring by Zodiac!:



< Moresby float camp

Day 5 + 6 + 7 – Monday, June 21 OR July 12, Tuesday, June 22 OR July 13, and Wednesday, June 23 OR July 14:

We leave the village of Queen Charlotte for a few days of exploration of both coast and interior of Graham Island. Our base will be the Engelhard's Oceanview Lodge, located on the waterfront (www.engelhardsoceanviewlodge.ca) of the town of Masset. Our sightseeing program will be determined by our local guide, Andrew, but can be expected to include the following, not necessarily in that order:

- Masset, a former fishing village that has become the second largest “city” of the archipelago. Located at the northern tip of Graham Island, Masset is known for its hiking trails and for birdwatching, and is the home of world-renowned Haida artists. Our visit here will of course include “Old Massett,” the spiritual home of the ancient Haidas, with its carving workshops of native artists and artisans.
- Tlell, a former Haida fishing camp that became a ranching community in the early 1900s is now arguably the islands’ foremost art community. In Tlell, plenty of time will be allowed to check out the art galleries and artisan shops. Along the Tlell River; near its mouth, inside the Naikoon Provincial Park, one can inspect the wreck of the Pesuta, a log-laden barge which ran aground here in 1928.

Whale skull on the beach near Tlell >

- The area around Port Clements, a community deep in the interior of Graham Island, is situated at an intersection of old logging roads. This region is famous for its lush ecosystem, featuring countless old growth trees. Visit to the Port Clements Museum, displaying pioneer artifacts and historical photographs of logging camps, for an impression of the lives of settlers in the early days. Also some walking along easy trails and/or boardwalks to view the site of the legendary Golden Sitka Spruce on the bank of the scenic Yakoun River, and an ancient 15-metre Haida canoe, partially carved and abandoned in the forest.



- Delkatla Wildlife Sanctuary, where no less than 140 different bird species have been recorded, including red knots, godwits, downwitchers, and western sandpipers. Delkatla plays a major role in the survival of migratory and wintering birds. Viewing towers and trails are readily accessible.
- Naikoon Provincial Park, whose endless sandy beaches invite us to some hiking and beachcombing along the beach trail, especially at Tow Hill, a huge outcrop of basalt columns formed when volcanic rock solidified into faceted basalt pillars about 2 million years ago. Haida legend has it that it was nearby, at North Beach, that raven first brought people into the world by coaxing them out of a clam shell, making North Beach the site of creation.

Meals on days 5, 6, and 7: One restaurant dinner, two picnic lunches, and one special, and likely to be very memorable, Haida dinner!



< Driftwood on Rose Spit, in Naikoon Provincial Park.

Day 8 – Thursday, June 24 OR July 15:

After breakfast, departure for Prince Rupert on the BC mainland by a North Pacific seaplane flight (45 minutes), with an opportunity to enjoy breathtaking views of the islands and the coast from your low-flying plane. Arrival in Prince Rupert, and leisurely walking tour of this “Vancouver of the North”. Prince Rupert is an important seaport and railway terminus, situated along the rugged BC coast in the traditional territory of the Tsimshian Nation. By the mid-

1800s canneries and trading posts were established here, and steamships as well as paddlewheelers soon started to serve the area. The highlight of our local sightseeing tour will be our visit to the magnificent Museum of Northern BC, built as a longhouse and showcasing the history and culture of coastal first nations such as the Tsimshian, Gitksan, Nisga'a, and Tlingit.. Accommodation in the Hotel Highliner Plaza. Dinner on your own.

Bird's eye view of Prince Rupert >

Day 9 – Friday, June 25 OR July 16:

After breakfast, coach tour of the Prince Rupert area, followed by a sidetrip inland, to Port Edward, for a visit to the North Pacific Cannery, the oldest surviving north coast cannery, now a museum (on stilts!) in the water. Return to Prince Rupert in the afternoon, and rest of the day free to shop in the boutiques along the trendy waterfront or explore the town on your own. Farewell dinner in a local restaurant.



Day 10 – Saturday, June 26 OR July 17:

After breakfast, transfer by coach, including a short ferry ride, to Digby Island, where Prince Rupert Airport is located, and return flight to Vancouver with Air Canada's flight, departing around 10:30 and arriving around 12:30PM.

The tour ends upon arrival at Vancouver Airport, and participants may have a connecting homebound flight from here. However, we do not recommend booking a same-day connection in Vancouver, as flights from Prince Rupert are occasionally delayed or cancelled due to weather conditions. For the benefit of those who would like to spend more time in Vancouver, our local representative is available to make optional additional arrangements for accommodations, transfers and sightseeing.

Tour price from Vancouver, and based on double occupancy:

**June 17 departure: \$3,150 – July 8 departure: \$3,200: single room surcharge: \$375
(Plus applicable GST or HST)**

Included in the price are:

- Air Canada flights Vancouver to Sandspit and Prince Rupert to Vancouver, plus a North Pacific floatplane flight from the Queen Charlottes to Prince Rupert;
- Accommodation based on double occupancy in comfortable tourist-category hotels, featuring rooms with private facilities, and in a "floating cabin" on June 6 as described in the itinerary. The single room supplement is \$375, but does not apply to the one night in the floating cabin, where no singles are available;
- Meals: breakfast daily plus 2 picnic lunches, 4 regular dinners, one special Haida dinner, and all meals during the two-day adventure by Zodiac;
- All overland transportation for sightseeing and transfers;
- All visits and sightseeing as outlined in the itinerary, including admission to museums and monuments mentioned;
- Services of knowledgeable local guides as well as Dianne Globe, Pauwels Travel Bureau representative in BC and experienced West Coast tour guide.

Not included:

- Airport taxes, presently (January 2010) approximately \$40, but subject to change, and 5 % GST on the tour price in June or 13 % HST on the tour price in July - the final amount will be reflected on your final invoice;
- Beverages with dinners, and meals other than those outlined above;
- All expenses of a personal nature;
- A gratuity for the driver-guide, approximately \$ 50;
- Travel insurance:

All inclusive travel within Canada insurance:

Up to age 59: \$195.48
Ages 60 - 64: \$218.16
Ages 65 - 69: \$241.92
Ages 70 - 74: \$274.32
Ages 75 - 79: Call for rates

Non medical insurance:

Up to age 59: \$190.08
Ages 60 - 64: \$211.68
Ages 65 - 69: \$235.44
Ages 70 - 74: \$266.76
Ages 75 - 79: Call for rates

PLEASE NOTE:

THAT DUE TO THE SPECIAL NATURE OF TRAVEL ON THE ISLANDS AS WELL AS THE WEATHER, ALL ARRANGEMENTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE! ALSO, TOUR PARTICIPANTS SHOULD NOT EXPECT ANY LUXURY AND NEED TO BE IN REASONABLY GOOD PHYSICAL SHAPE, ABLE TO WALK MODERATE DISTANCES, CLIMB ON BOARD BOATS, ETC. FINALLY, ONLY A SMALL SUITCASE WILL BE ALLOWED DUE TO WEIGHT RESTRICTIONS ON THE SEAPLANE FLIGHT.

FACTS ABOUT HAIDA GWAI / THE QUEEN CHARLOTTE ISLANDS:

Haida Gwaii ("Islands of the People"), whose original Haida name was Xhaaidlagha Gwaayaaai, "islands on the edge of the world", are an archipelago on the British Columbia Coast. They consist of two main islands: Graham Island in the north, and Moresby Island in the south, along with approximately 150 smaller islands with a total landmass of 10,180 km² (3,932 sq mi). Other major islands include Langara, Louise, Lyell, Burnaby, and Kunghit Island. The islands are separated from the British Columbia mainland to the east by Hecate Strait. Vancouver Island lies to the south, across Queen Charlotte Sound, while the U.S. state of Alaska is to the north, across the Dixon Entrance. Some of the land, including the homelands of some of the Haida peoples, is jointly protected under federal and Haida legislation as Gwaii Haanas National Park Reserve and Haida Heritage Site. Today, some 5000 people live on the islands. Indigenous people, belonging to the Haida nation, live throughout the islands. The majority of the Haida live on the two reserves of Old Massett and Skidegate, each with a population of about 1,000. The ancient Haida village sites, with standing poles and the visible remnants of Haida longhouses, are found primarily in areas that are accessible only by Zodiac boat. FOR MORE INFORMATION, SEE http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Haida_Gwaii



Sea lions on rocks along the Moresby coast

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TERMS AND CONDITIONS

RESERVATIONS AND DEPOSITS:

Reservations should be made as early as possible to ensure the departure of your choice. A deposit of \$750.00 is required at the time of registration. **Your reservation is confirmed upon receipt of your deposit and application form. No reservations will be accepted without a signed application form.**

REFUND OF UNUSED ARRANGEMENTS:

Because the rates of Pauwels Travel Bureau Ltd. are based on group participation, no refund can be made for any tour accommodation or tour service or tour feature not taken. If cancellation occurs while the tour is in progress, no refund can be made for the tour portion not taken. We strongly suggest that to allow for any unexpected contingencies, you purchase the all-inclusive insurance.

CANCELLATION POLICY:

Refund of deposit is made in full if cancellation is received in writing by Pauwels Travel Bureau Ltd. more than 90 days prior of the departure date of the tour less a \$500.00 non refundable administrative fee per person. For cancellation received in writing 90 days prior or less the following cancellation charges apply:

90 days to 46 days before departure:	25% of tour cost
45 to 15 days before departure:	50% of tour cost
Within 14 days prior to departure:	100% of tour cost

RESPONSIBILITY:

Pauwels Travel Bureau Ltd. reserves the right without notice, to withdraw any part or all of the tour. Factors such as airline schedule changes, hotel overbookings, inclement weather, etc. may necessitate changes in the itinerary as outlined. There may also be other circumstances in which changes become necessary or advisable. Any savings realized by these changes will be passed on to the passengers, any resultant expenses shall be borne by the passenger. Pauwels Travel Bureau Ltd. acts only as an agent in securing hotel, transportation and other travel services and in no event shall be held responsible for the failure by any person or company to render any transportation, lodging or other travel service to be provided on the tour. All hotel, transportation and other travel services are provided to tour members subject to all the terms and conditions under which they are offered to the public generally. The acceptance of the initial service to be provided under the tour shall be considered an acceptance by the tour member of those conditions. Pauwels Travel Bureau Ltd. also reserves the right to decline, to accept or retain any person as a member of the tour, in which case equitable refund will be made at the discretion of the tour operators.

AIR TRANSPORTATION:

Economy flight by scheduled IATA carrier(s), based on an economy class group fare. All fares are subject to specific rules and regulations, to changes and to government approval. Deviations from the group flights are possible but subject to higher rates.

APPLICATION FORM

Please book ___ seat(s) on the "Haida Gwaii" tour of (please check date):

June 17-26, 2010___ OR July 8-17, 2010___.

Enclosed is my/our deposit of _____ (\$750 per person, *plus* insurance premium if taken.)

Deposit and insurance premium, if taken, are due with registration. You will be invoiced for the balance approximately 45 days prior to departure.

WE REQUIRE A COPY OF YOUR PASSPORT VALID FOR 6 MONTHS AFTER YOUR RETURN TO BE SENT WITH YOUR APPLICATION FORM

Please indicate the appropriate title before each name (Mr., Mrs., Miss, Dr., Ms., etc.)

NAME(S): _____

If applicable, give your commonly used first name as you would like it to appear on your name tag: (e.g. "Liz" for "Mary Elizabeth") _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: (Home) _____ (Bus.) _____ (Fax/Email) _____

If traveling alone, please indicate your willingness to share accommodations: YES ___ NO ___

SINGLE ROOM REQUIRED: _____

(We will try to find a roommate for those willing to share, but cannot guarantee success in doing so. For single travelers we are not able to match, the single supplement will apply.)

SPECIAL REQUESTS: (Dietary, wheelchair assistance, frequent flyer number, twin beds, etc.): Please list here so we can do our best to assist you:

I/we agree to the "terms and conditions" attached to the program.

Insurance, I/we accept: All-inclusive Package ___ Non-medical Package ___ Decline Insurance

Signature (s) _____

If purchasing travel insurance, we require your date of birth:

Name: _____ Date of Birth _____

Name: _____ Date of Birth _____

PAYMENT:

Cheque payable to Pauwels Travel Visa Mastercard American Express

Amount Paid: _____

Card Number: _____ Expiry: _____

Signature: _____

Please forward this completed form, copy of passport and payment to:

PAUWELS TRAVEL BUREAU LTD.

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